

REMARKS

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on February 9, 2005.

Claims 60, 62, 66, 69, 74, 79, and 85 are amended. Claims 60-62, 64-82, and 84-90 remain pending in this application.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claim 79 was rejected because the Office Action indicated that claim 79 is vague. Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant amends claim 79 for clarity. Applicant believes that claim 79 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 85-87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant amends claim 85 for clarity. Applicant believes that claim 85 and dependent claims 86 and 87 are now in condition for allowance.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 60, 61, 64-78, and 88-90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by Reinberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,432,793).

Applicant respectfully traverses for at least the reasons discussed below.

Independent claim 60 is amended and recites, among other things, forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second conductive layer, and forming a diffusion barrier layer “over” the inhibiting layer and the second conductive layer. Applicant is unable to find in Reinberg features such as forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second conductive layer, and forming a diffusion barrier layer “over” the inhibiting layer and the second conductive layer. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claim 60 and dependent claims 61, 64, and 65 be allowed.

Independent claim 66 is amended and recites, among other things, forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second conductive layer, and forming a diffusion barrier layer “over” the inhibiting layer and the second conductive layer. Applicant is unable to find in Reinberg features such as forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second conductive layer, and forming a diffusion barrier layer “over” the inhibiting layer and the second conductive layer. Accordingly, Applicant

requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claim 66 and dependent claims 67-73 be allowed.

Independent claim 74 is amended and recites, among other things, forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second conductive layer, and forming a diffusion barrier layer “over” the inhibiting layer and the second conductive layer. Applicant is unable to find in Reinberg features such as forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second conductive layer, and forming a diffusion barrier layer “over” the inhibiting layer and the second conductive layer. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claim 74 and dependent claims 74-78 be allowed.

Independent claim 88 recites, among other things, forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second capacitor electrode, and “forming a metallization layer contacting the inhibiting layer”. Applicant is unable to find in Reinberg features such as forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second capacitor electrode, and “forming a metallization layer contacting the inhibiting layer”. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claim 88 be allowed.

Independent claim 89 recites, among other things, forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second capacitor electrode, and “forming a metallization layer including a barrier layer contacting the inhibiting layer”. Applicant is unable to find in Reinberg features such as forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second capacitor electrode, and “forming a metallization layer including a barrier layer contacting the inhibiting layer”. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claim 89 be allowed.

Independent claim 90 recites, among other things, forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second capacitor electrode, and “forming a metallization layer over the inhibiting layer”. Applicant is unable to find in Reinberg features such as forming an inhibiting layer “over” the second capacitor electrode, and “forming a metallization layer over the inhibiting layer”. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claim 90 be allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 80-82 and 84 were allowed.

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 80-82 and 84.

Claim 62 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 62 is rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Office Action. Thus, claim 62 is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 373-6969 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date 11 April 2005

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 11 day of April, 2005.

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